

R. W. Bro. I. F. Toms, P. D. D. G. M. W. Bro. Radcliffe made the presentation, and in doing so said:—R. W. Bro. Robertson, you have been requested to attend here on the eve of your departure from among us, in order that the members of this Lodge may evince to you in a tangible (though slight) form their high appreciation of you as a Mason, and that one word includes all the best attributes of a man. It is therefore, R. W. Sir, with pleasure and sadness combined (for there is such a thing as a sad pleasure), that on behalf of a large number of the members of this Lodge, I now present you with this P. M. jewel, as a slight token of their esteem and brotherly love, and may you ever wear it as an emblem of honor. It is at all times a pleasure to us as Masons to be enabled to show our appreciation of worth, but it is also ever sad to part with those whom we love and respect, and with whom we have passed so many years of pleasure and profit to ourselves. But this is a world of constant change; infinite Nature is beautiful and endless; its beauty and its endlessness dwell in eternal change. Waves die upon the shore, but the mighty sea rolls on and on for ever; the tree grows old and falls, decays and vanishes, but the forest stands. The patriarchal founders of the indestructible order of Masonry, were gathered one by one to the resting place of their fathers, but families, tribes and nations took their places on the earth, the dawn gives way to noon, the noon to evening and the evening to night. The seasons come and go, the years glide swiftly by, from infancy to youth, from youth to middle age, and from middle age to life's autumn, and from that to wintry old age. There is seed time, blossom, harvest and repose in every well rounded life, sunshine and shadow, storm and calm, freeze and thaw, cold and heat, continually altering the condition of existence. But the true Mason surveys these changes with philosophic serenity and recognizes in it all the ever constant presence of the G. A. of the U. and the immortality of the soul. I feel assured, R. W. Sir, I but express the sentiments of all the brethren present when I say that you have ever proved yourself a faithful and energetic craftsman in the quarries, that your zeal and love for our noble order has had a most beneficial effect not only on the members of this Lodge but on all the brothers in this district, with whom you have come in contact, and we doubt not, R. W. Sir, that no matter in what country or in what quarter of the globe you may ever be, you will guard well the ancient landmarks of our order, and that the zeal and energy which you have displayed on behalf of Masonry in the past, will remain and shine forth as bright as ever in the future, and when you are in that far off

country on the other side of the globe, for which you are so soon to depart, that even without this small token of remembrance you will often look back with pleasure on the many evenings you have so ably presided over this Lodge. In conclusion, R. W. Sir, allow me to add, that it is the sincere wish of all the brethren that you may be prosperous and happy in your new home, and that the G. A. O. T. U. may bless you and prosper you in all your undertakings.

Then turning to Bro. Toms he addressed him thus:—

R. W. Bro. Toms,—you have been requested to attend here to-day, that the brethren of this Lodge might also evince to you, in a slight form, their esteem and brotherly love, and their high appreciation of your many excellent qualities. I am not speaking merely my own sentiments, but I am endeavoring to utter the feelings, and to express the sentiments of the whole craft in this town, in now addressing you. We feel most closely attached by sentiments of gratitude and esteem towards you, and we are impressed with the conviction that we owe much to you, for your constant anxiety and unabating zeal for the welfare of the brethren collectively and individually. Masonry as you well know, is one of the most sublime and perfect institutions that ever was formed, for the advancement of happiness and general good of mankind. It holds our allurementso so captivating as to inspire the brotherhood with emulation to deeds of glory, such as must command throughout the world, veneration and applause, and such as must entitle those who perform them to dignity and respect. It teaches us those useful, wise and instructive doctrines, upon which alone true happiness is founded; and at the same time affords those easy paths by which we attain the rewards of virtue. It teaches us the duty we owe to our neighbor, never to injure him in any situation, but to conduct ourselves with justice and impartiality—to be above all meanness and dissimulation, and in all our avocations to perform religiously that which we ought to do. As Masons and brethren, we always stand upon a level by the principles which we are taught, we are all of the same family, high and low, rich and poor, created by the same Almighty power. Still, however, Masonry teaches us to show respect and honor to each man to whom respect and honor is due, according to the respective character of each individual. And when individuals deserve well of the whole fraternity, it displays that additional lustre, that Masons unite heart and hand to evince their high estimation of meritorious services. We, therefore, R. W. Sir, behold in you that character, which calls forth the respect and approbation of the fra-